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02/24/2005 01:56 PM

To Christopher Lichens/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
cc
bcc
Subject OU-2 sampling - reduced analyte list

Chris,

The upcoming groundwater monitoring for OU-2 scheduled for next week will include a reduced list of analytes as specified in Section 3.2.1 of the Field Sampling Plan (FSP). The specific changes along with the rationale are summarized below:

Analyses that Will be Discontinued

General chemistry (dissolved TAL metals, cyanide, bromide, chloride, fluoride, sulfate, nitrate-N, nitrite-N, orthophosphate-P, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, total phosphorus, ammonia, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, biological oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand, and total organic carbon). These analyses were planned for one year of sampling to characterize the groundwater within OU-2 to evaluate treatment and discharge issues (Sec.3.2.1 of the FSP). The sampling and analysis objective has been achieved. Additional samples (one round) should be collected from the new wells that will be installed this year.

Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs). Only bis(2-ethylexyl)phthalate was detected at concentrations above its Primary MCL. This compound is a plasticizer and is found in PVC wells. Based on the analytical results, groundwater extracted within OU-2 is not expected to be treated for SVOCs. The new wells will be sampled for SVOCs (at least one round).

Analyses that Will be Continued at a Decreased Frequency

Perchlorate. The concentrations of perchlorate measured in groundwater samples ranged from non-detect to 10 ug/l. Although this value is above the California Action Level (AL) of 6 ug/l, perchlorate was not detected or was below the AL in most samples. Consequently, treatment of groundwater extracted within OU-2 for perchlorate would likely not be required. CH2M HILL recommends discontinuing the analysis for perchlorate for samples from the existing wells. The new wells will be sampled for perchlorate. CH2M HILL recommends sampling of all the site wells (existing and new) for perchlorate once a year; i.e., the next round will be in December 2005.

Analyses that Will be Continued Quarterly

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) The analytical results confirmed that VOCs are present within OU-2 at concentrations exceeding their Primary MCLs. Treatment of groundwater extracted within OU-2 for these compounds will be required.

Emergent Compounds - hexavalent chromium, 1,2,3-TCP, 1,4-Dioxane, NDMA. These compounds have been detected in concentrations exceeding their ALs. Treatment of groundwater extracted within OU-2 for these compounds is expected.

Please let me know if you want to make any changes to the analyte list or if you have any questions.

Regards,
Tom